## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: College/University School Personnel

FROM: Jimmy J. Gianato, Director

WV Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Safe School Helpline Information

DATE: August 12, 2011

The West Virginia Safe Schools Helpline is entering its' tenth year of operation with the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. The helpline was established in the spring of 2001 and is operational 365 days a year.

The Safe Schools Helpline (1-866-SAFEWVA or 1-866-723-3982) is a free of charge service to all West Virginia residents and provides callers with access to a live operator 24 hours a day -7 days a week.

Please complete and return the attached form(s) indicating who is authorized to receive Safe Schools Reports for your facility. Please be assured any after-hours contact names and numbers are <u>confidential</u> and for emergency use only.

The helpline advises callers to contact local 911 centers for incidents requiring immediate emergency response from law enforcement, fire service or emergency medical services.

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will continue our efforts to work toward ensuring a safe, productive school year for students and school personnel.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Laverne Stout, Operations Officer at (304) 558-5380 M-F, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. JJG:lms